

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUL 18 1978

DATE ENTERED AUG 30 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Lowndes Grove

AND/OR COMMON

The Grove, The Grove Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

260 St. Margaret Street

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

__ VICINITY OF

#1

STATE

South Carolina

CODE

045

COUNTY

Charleston

CODE

019

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

__ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

__ STRUCTURE

__ SITE

__ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

__ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

__ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

__ IN PROCESS

__ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

__ UNOCCUPIED

__ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

__ YES: RESTRICTED

__ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

PRESENT USE

__ AGRICULTURE

__ COMMERCIAL

__ EDUCATIONAL

__ ENTERTAINMENT

__ GOVERNMENT

__ INDUSTRIAL

__ MILITARY

__ MUSEUM

__ PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

__ RELIGIOUS

__ SCIENTIFIC

__ TRANSPORTATION

__ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Joseph L. Goodman, M.D.

STREET & NUMBER

260 St. Margaret Street

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

South Carolina 29403

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register of Mesne Conveyance

STREET & NUMBER

2 Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Charleston

STATE

South Carolina

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina

DATE

1973 (update)

__ FEDERAL ☒ STATE __ COUNTY __ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

South Carolina Department of Archives and History

CITY, TOWN

Columbia

STATE

South Carolina

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built ca. 1786, Lowndes Grove is a one and one-half story frame structure set upon a raised stucco-over-brick basement. Probably originally built in the Georgian mode, the structure has been altered through the years. Despite these alterations, however, the structure is valuable architecturally, chronicling various changes in architectural design.

Although the original appearance of the front facade is not definitely known, the structure probably featured a double portico. This portico appears to have been altered ca. 1830 into the present five-bayed piazza which features Doric columns and balustrades with turned balusters. The central three bays are extended slightly forward and support a pediment with oculus surrounded by keystone and voussoirs. The lower level of the portico features five Gothic-style bays which were glazed ca. 1900.

An entablature surrounds the house and pediment with dentil and modillion blocks. The side facades feature 9/9 windows on both levels. During the 1830s the house was enlarged to the rear. This addition was sensitively handled, however, and siding and moldings were reproduced.

Two dormer windows pierce the roofline on both sides of the structure, while there are three dormers at the rear. The hipped roof was covered with terra cotta tiles ca. 1920 and features two interior chimneys with corbeled caps.

Interior: The floor plan is basically the typical four rooms divided into pairs by a central hall. (This plan has been slightly modified by the rear addition.) Walls and ceilings are plastered and floors are original. Most of the major rooms have elaborate cornices, ceiling medallions, mantels and other decorations, primarily in the Adamesque style. These decorations were probably added during William Lowndes' ownership of the structure in the early 19th Century. Regency style decorations appear in the first and second story northwest rooms which were enlarged ca. 1831. The northeast room on the first floor was damaged by fire (20th Century) and has been modernized into a kitchen, hall, and library. The third story (garret) contains two Georgian style mantels and one mantel which is Greek Revival.

A spiral staircase connects each floor and features a circular skylight. Its balustrade and hand rail are continuous.

Surroundings: The structure is located on a bluff overlooking the Ashley River. Surrounding the house is a lawn with large trees and a winding drive. Located to the rear of the property is an outbuilding, probably built ca. 1920. (Also included within the property is a smaller outbuilding of an undetermined age.)

Extending to the west of the house, toward the river, are approximately 10.8 acres. This acreage contains numerous large oak trees as well as marshland.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Probably constructed ca. 1786, Lowndes Grove chronicles various periods of architectural design. At one time the home of William Lowndes, United States Congressman, it later played an important role in the South Carolina Interstate and West Indies Exposition of 1901-02. Located on the banks of the Ashley River, it is landscaped with live oaks.

According to tradition, the history of this plantation begins prior to the Revolution when John Gibbes resided near Charleston, his residence being known as "the Grove." According to one source, this structure was burned during the Revolution.

Sometime soon thereafter (ca. 1786), George Abbot Hall acquired the tract of land known as the Grove. Hall apparently built the present structure, as the 1791 inventory of his estate lists the various items in his residence at the Grove. After his death, ownership of the plantation changed several times. In 1803 the plantation was acquired by William Lowndes, who served in the South Carolina House of Representatives and in 1810 was elected to the United States Congress. There he served as chairman of both the Ways and Means Committee and the Committee on Foreign Affairs. Suffering from poor health, Lowndes resigned his Congressional seat in 1822 and died within the year.

Following Lowndes' death, ownership of the plantation changed several times, Lowndes Grove eventually becoming the property of Captain F. W. Wagener, a prominent businessman. Wagener was also president of the South Carolina Interstate and West Indies Exposition which was held in Charleston in 1901-02. This was a large exposition, involving the erection of several buildings, a visit from President Theodore Roosevelt, and the display of the Liberty Bell. During the exposition, Lowndes Grove was used as the Woman's Building, housing artistic and historical displays.

During the 1920s, Lowndes Grove became the home of James Sottile, Jr., a successful developer. Today it is the home of a physician.

Architecture: Lowndes Grove is valuable architecturally, chronicling various periods in architectural design. Notable exterior features include the front portico with projecting pediment with oculus, refined entablature with both dentil and modillion motifs, Gothic-style arcade, 9/9 windows with moulded jambs, and beaded siding.

The interior features architectural details that range from the Georgian period to the Regency period. These include Georgian mantels in the garret, elaborate Adamesque ceiling medallions, cornices and mantels; and Regency decorations in the ca. 1831 addition. Especially notable is the spiral staircase which connects each floor and culminates in a circular skylight.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Charleston and the Exposition Illustrated. 1902; rpt. Charleston: Nelson and Southern Printing Company, 1958.

The Exposition. I (April 1901), 143-146.

(continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 14.27 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,7 5,9,6,8,6,0 3,6,2,9,6,8,0
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B 1,7 5,9,6,8,6,0 3,6,2,9,4,4,0
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 1,7 5,9,6,6,4,0 3,6,2,9,4,4,0

D 1,7 5,9,6,6,4,0 3,6,2,9,6,8,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property is bounded on the south by St. Margaret Street, west by the Ashley River, north by 3rd Street (not opened), and on the east by 6th Street.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Kappy McNulty

ORGANIZATION

South Carolina Department of Archives and History

DATE

November 2, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 11,669, Capitol Station

TELEPHONE

(803) 758-5816

CITY OR TOWN

Columbia

STATE

South Carolina 29211

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE X

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Charles E. Lee
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

7/11/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

8/30/78

ATTEST

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

8-28-78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUL 18 1978
DATE ENTERED	AUG 30 1978

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE two

This land is integrally related to the integrity of the site and if destroyed much of the visual and historic character of Lowndes Grove would be destroyed. Preliminary plans have been made by the South Carolina Highway Department to build a freeway parallel to the river on the edge of the property.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JAN 17 1977

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE two

Leiding, Harriette Kershaw. Historic Houses of South Carolina. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1921.

Levkoff, Alice F. Charleston Come Hell or High Water. Columbia: R. L. Bryan, 1975.

Malone, Dumas, ed. Dictionary of American Biography, Vol. XI. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1933.

Malone, Dumas, and Johnson, Allen, eds. Dictionary of American Biography, Vol. VII. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1931.

Sass, Herbert R. The Story of the South Carolina Lowcountry, Vol. III. West Columbia, S.C.: J.F. Hyer, 1956.

Stoney, Samuel G., ed. Plantations of the Carolina Low Country. revised ed. Charleston: Carolina Art Association, 1964.

Wilson, J.G., and Fiske, John, eds. Appleton's Cyclopaedia of American Biography, Vol. IV. New York: Appleton and Company, 1888.

South Carolina Department of Archives and History. Charleston Deeds, P-6, p. 467; I-6, pp. 307-308; L-7, pp. 209-210.

South Carolina Department of Archives and History. Charleston Inventories, D, pp. 80-82.

Information provided by Elias Bull, Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Historic Preservation Planner, July 1976.